

REMARKS/DISCUSSION:

This Amendment After Final is being filed in conjunction with a PETITION FOR REVIVAL OF AN APPLICATION FOR PATENT ABANDONED UNINTENTIONALLY UNDER 37 CFR §1.137(b).

Applicants have placed the claims in condition for allowance based on the allowable subject matter indicated the Examiner as follows:

1. Claim 1 has been amended to include the allowable subject matter of claim 22; claim 22 has been canceled;
2. Independent claims 2 and 3 and dependent claims 4-7 have been canceled;
3. Claim 8, which is dependent upon claim 1, has been amended;
4. Independent claims 9 and 10 and dependent claim 11 have been canceled;
5. Independent claim 12 has been amended to include the allowable subject matter of claim 14; claims 13 and 14 have been canceled;
6. Claims 15, 17 and 18 are all dependent upon now-amended claim 12, and claim 16 has been canceled;
7. Claims 19-21 and 23-31 depend directly or indirectly upon now amended claim 1;
8. Independent claim 32 has been amended to include the subject matter of objected to claim 35, and claim 35 has been amended;
9. Claims 33, 34 and 36-43 depend directly or indirectly upon now amended claim 32; and

10. Claims 44-47 have been canceled.

Amendment and/or cancellation of claims is not to be construed as a dedication to the public of any of the subject matter of the claims previously presented. Further, Applicant(s) reserves the right to prosecute the subject matter of such claims in continuation and/or divisional applications.

Applicant has carefully studied the outstanding Office Action. This Amendment is intended to be fully responsive to all points of rejection raised by the Examiner and is believed to place the application in condition for allowance. All of the prior art rejections stated by the Examiner are now considered moot as a result of incorporating allowable subject matter into base independent claims. Favorable reconsideration and allowance of the application are respectfully requested.

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Conclusion

Applicant submits that in view of the amendments, the rejections under 35 U.S.C. § 103 have been overcome and that the invention is now patentable over the cited prior. The Examiner is respectfully requested to reconsider all rejections and pass this case to issue.

Should any minor points remain prior to issuance of a Notice of Allowance, the Examiner is requested to telephone the undersigned at the below-listed telephone number.

The Commissioner is hereby authorized to charge any additional fees, which may be required to Account No. 10-0750/END-736/VEK.

Respectfully submitted,

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